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17 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

18 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

19 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

20 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

21 No. CR 2:18-00767 (A)-AB

22 Plaintiff,

23 GOVERNMENT'S SENTENCING MEMORANDUM  
24 AS TO DEFENDANT PAUL MCFARLANE  
25 LUKE

PAUL MCFARLANE LUKE,

Sentencing Date: 4/29/2022  
Hearing Time: 3:00 p.m.  
Location: Courtroom of the Hon.  
André Birotte Jr.

v.

Defendant.

Plaintiff United States of America, by and through its counsel of record, the United States Attorney for the Central District of California and Assistant United States Attorney MiRi Song, hereby files its Sentencing Memorandum as to Defendant Paul McFarlane Luke.

This Sentencing Memorandum is based upon the attached memorandum of points and authorities, the files and records in this case, the Presentence Investigation Report submitted by the United States Probation Office, and any other evidence or argument that the Court may wish to consider at the time of sentencing.

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The government respectfully requests the opportunity to supplement its position as may become necessary.

Dated: April 27, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

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1                   **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

2                   **I. INTRODUCTION**

3                   Defendant Paul McFarlane Luke ("defendant") pleaded guilty on  
4 April 21, 2021, pursuant to a written plea agreement, to Counts One  
5 and Two of a two-count First Superseding Information in United States  
6 v. Paul McFarlane Luke, No. CR 18-00767(A)-AB, charging him with  
7 Making a False Statement in a Passport Application, in violation of  
8 18 U.S.C. § 1542, and Being an Illegal Alien Found in the United  
9 States Following Deportation, in violation of 8 U.S.C. §§ 1326(a),  
10 (b) (1).

11                  The United States Probation Office ("USPO") filed its  
12 Presentence Investigation Report ("PSR"), where it determined that  
13 defendant's base offense level is 8. This base offense level is  
14 increased by 12 offense levels for specific offense characteristics  
15 for an adjusted offense level of 20. Defendant's acceptance of  
16 responsibility decreased that level for a total offense level of 17.  
17 The USPO determined that defendant had a total of five criminal  
18 history points and belongs in Criminal History Category III. The  
19 applicable United States Sentencing Guidelines ("Guidelines") range  
20 is therefore 30 to 37 months' imprisonment, one to three years of  
21 supervised release, a fine of \$10,000 to \$95,000, and a special  
22 assessment fee of \$200.

23                  The government concurs with the USPO's calculations and  
24 recommendations and recommends 30 months' imprisonment, no fine, and  
25 a special assessment fee of \$200. However, the government recommends  
26 a supervised release period of 1 year, given defendant's compliance  
27 with the terms and conditions of release when released on bail. Such  
28 a sentence is sufficient, but not greater than necessary, to reflect

1 the nature and circumstances of the offense and defendant's history  
2 and characteristics. It also promotes respect for the law, affords  
3 adequate deterrence to criminal conduct, and protects the public from  
4 further crimes of defendant.

5 **II. STATEMENT OF FACTS**

6 On or about May 19, 2015, in Los Angeles County, within the  
7 Central District of California, defendant knowingly and willfully  
8 made a false statement in an application for a United States  
9 passport, with intent to induce and secure for his own use the  
10 issuance of a passport under the authority of the United States,  
11 contrary to the laws regulating the issuance of such passports. (ECF  
12 No. 63: PSR ¶ 9.) Specifically, defendant falsely stated that his  
13 name was D.V.G., his social security number was xxx-xx-6712, and that  
14 his date of birth was in February 1983, whereas, in truth and fact,  
15 as defendant then well knew, his name was not D.V.G., his social  
16 security number was not xxx-xx-6712, and his date of birth was not in  
17 February 1983. (Id.)

18 Defendant made the statement intending to get a United  
19 States passport for his own use. (Id. at ¶ 10.) Defendant  
20 acted knowingly and willfully, that is, defendant acted  
21 deliberately (and not through ignorance, mistake, or accident)  
22 and with knowledge both that the statement was untrue and that  
23 his conduct was unlawful. (Id.)

24 Furthermore, defendant, a citizen of Jamaica, was an alien, that  
25 is, not a natural-born or naturalized citizen, or national, of the  
26 United States. (Id. at ¶ 11.) On or about November 3, 2010,  
27 defendant was convicted of Fraud and Related Activity in Connection  
28 with Identification Documents, in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1028(a)(7),

1 on or about February 8, 2011, in the District Court of Nevada, Case  
2 Number 2:10-CR-0435-KJD-LRL, for which defendant was sentenced to 8  
3 months' imprisonment. (Id.) Defendant was lawfully deported or  
4 removed from the United States on or about August 25, 2011. (Id.)

5 On or about February 10, 2017, defendant knowingly and  
6 voluntarily re-entered and thereafter remained in the United States.  
7 (Id. at ¶ 12.) Defendant did so without the consent of the Attorney  
8 General or the Secretary of Homeland Security or of any authorized  
9 representative of either official, to reapply for admission or to  
10 otherwise re-enter and remain in the United States. (Id.) On July  
11 19, 2017, in the Los Angeles Superior Court Docket No. BA454536,  
12 defendant was sentenced for a violation of Penal Code Section  
13 245(a)(4): Assault by Means Likely to Produce Great Bodily Injury, a  
14 felony, for which he received three years' imprisonment. (Id. at ¶  
15 13.) After defendant re-entered and remained in the United States,  
16 on or about March 8, 2019, immigration authorities found defendant in  
17 Los Angeles County, within the Central District of California. (Id.  
18 at ¶ 14.)

19 **III. THE PRESENTENCE INVESTIGATION REPORT**

20 The USPO calculated defendant's total offense level as 17. (Id.  
21 ¶ 34.) Specifically, the PSR applied the following Guidelines  
22 factors:

23 Base Offense Level: 8 USSG § 2L1.2(a)

24 Specific Characteristics:

25 Felony conviction before +4 USSG § 2L1.2(b)(2)(D)  
26 deportation

27 Felony conviction after +8 USSG § 2L1.2(b)(3)(D)  
28 deportation

1           Acceptance of Responsibility:       -3    USSG § 3E1.1(a)

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2           Total Offense Level                   17

3           (Id. ¶¶ 18-34.) The USPO also determined that defendant has five  
 4 criminal history points and is therefore in Criminal History Category  
 5 III. (Id. at ¶¶ 36-45.) Based on this and the applicable mandatory  
 6 minimum sentence that apply in the instant offense, the USPO  
 7 determined that the applicable Guidelines range is 30 to 37 months'  
 8 imprisonment. (Id. ¶ 76.)

9 **IV. THE GOVERNMENT'S SENTENCING RECOMMENDATION**

10          The government concurs with the USPO's calculations of the total  
 11 offense level and determination of defendant's Criminal History  
 12 Category. The government also concurs with the USPO's recommendation  
 13 of 30 months' imprisonment, no fine, and a special assessment fee of  
 14 \$200. (ECF No. 62: Disclosed Recommendation Letter, p. 1.) The  
 15 government however recommends a supervised release period of 1 year.  
 16 Defendant has been on pretrial release and has generally complied  
 17 with the terms and conditions of release. Thus, it appears that  
 18 defendant is amenable to supervision and a period of 3 years would be  
 19 excessive. The factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a) would be  
 20 satisfied by the government's recommended sentence, which would be  
 21 "sufficient, but not greater than necessary" to comply with the  
 22 purposes enumerated in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)(2). Defendant committed  
 23 serious crimes, but there are various mitigating factors. At the  
 24 outset, there is no victim in this case, which is why the government  
 25 dropped the initial aggravated identity theft charge in the original  
 indictment in this matter. Defendant also appears to have reentered  
 this country because he has family here and wished to be reunited  
 with them. During the pandemic, the USPO reports that defendant has

1 also been a caregiver to these family members and have otherwise  
2 lived a law-abiding life. Indeed, since the time of his pretrial  
3 release to now, defendant appears to have complied with the terms and  
4 conditions of supervision. A 30-month custodial sentence is  
5 significant enough such that it would adequately promote defendant's  
6 respect for the law and afford deterrence to any future criminal  
7 conduct, thereby also protecting the public.

8 **V. CONCLUSION**

9 For all of the foregoing reasons, the government accepts the PSR  
10 and concurs with its calculations and recommendations, save for the  
11 supervised release period, for which the government recommends 1  
12 year. The government submits that the factors set forth in 18 U.S.C.  
13 § 3553(a) support the imposition of its recommended sentence.

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